

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING NATIONAL PHASE OF  
PCT APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495

To: H. R. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



00909

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES

Atty Dkt: P 282812

/2990171US/HS/HER

DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

M# /Client Ref.

From: Pillsbury Winthrop LLP, IP Group:

Date: September 6, 2001

This is a **REQUEST** for **FILING** a PCT/USA National Phase Application based on:

1. International Application	2. International Filing Date	3. Earliest Priority Date Claimed
PCT/FI00/00179	8 March 2000	9 March 1999
↑ country code	Day MONTH Year	Day MONTH Year
		(use item 2 if no earlier priority)

4. Measured from the earliest priority date in item 3, this PCT/USA National Phase Application Request is being filed within:

(a) ☐ 20 months from above item 3 date (b) ☒ 30 months from above item 3 date,

(c) Therefore, the due date (unextendable) is September 9, 2001

Title of Invention CAMPING IN AN EXCLUSIVE CELL

6. Inventor(s) JUUTI et al.

Applicant herewith submits the following under 35 U.S.C. 371 to effect filing:

7. ☒ Please immediately start national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)).

8. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) is transmitted herewith (file if in English but, if in foreign language, file only if not transmitted to PTO by the International Bureau) including:

- a. ☒ Request;
- b. ☒ Abstract;
- c. 18 pgs. Spec. and Claims;
- d. 3 sheet(s) Drawing which are ☐ informal ☒ formal of size ☒ A4 ☐ 11"

9. ☒ A copy of the International Application has been transmitted by the International Bureau.

10. A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))

- a. ☐ is transmitted herewith including: (1) ☐ Request; (2) ☐ Abstract;  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_ pgs. Spec. and Claims;  
(4) \_\_\_\_\_ sheet(s) Drawing which are:  
☐ informal ☐ formal of size ☐ A4 ☐ 11"
- b. ☒ is not required, as the application was filed in English.
- c. ☐ is not herewith, but will be filed when required by the forthcoming PTO Missing Requirements Notice per Rule 494(c) if box 4(a) is X'd or Rule 495(c) if box 4(b) is X'd.
- d. ☐ Translation verification attached (not required now).

RE: USA National Phase Filing of PCT /FI00/00179

11. ☒ Please see the attached Preliminary Amendment
12. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)), i.e., **before 18th month from first priority date above in item 3, are transmitted herewith (file only if in English) including:**
13. ☒ PCT Article 19 claim amendments (if any) have been transmitted by the International Bureau
14. ☐ Translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)), i.e., of **claim amendments** made before 18th month, is attached (**required by 20th month from the date in item 3 if box 4(a) above is X'd, or 30th month if box 4(b) is X'd, or else amendments will be considered canceled**).

15. **A declaration of the inventor** (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4))

- a. ☐ is submitted herewith ☐ Original ☐ Facsimile/Copy
- b. ☒ is not herewith, but will be filed when required by the forthcoming PTO Missing Requirements Notice per Rule 494(c) if box 4(a) is X'd or Rule 495(c) if box 4(b) is X'd.

16. **An International Search Report (ISR):**

- a. Was prepared by ☐ European Patent Office ☐ Japanese Patent Office ☒ Other
- b. ☒ has been transmitted by the international Bureau to PTO.
- c. ☒ copy herewith (1 pg(s).) ☒ plus Annex of family members (1 pg(s).).

17. **International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER):**

- a. ☒ has been transmitted (if this letter is filed after 28 months from date in item 3) in English by the International Bureau with Annexes (if any) in original language.
- b. ☐ copy herewith in English.
- c.1 ☐ IPER Annex(es) in original language ("Annexes" are amendments made to claims/spec/drawings during Examination) including attached amended:
- c.2 ☐ Specification/claim pages #\_\_ claims #  
Dwg Sheets #
- d. ☐ Translation of Annex(es) to IPER (**required by 30<sup>th</sup> month due date, or else annexed amendments will be considered canceled**).

18. **Information Disclosure Statement** including:

- a. ☒ Attached Form PTO-1449 listing documents
- b. ☒ Attached copies of documents listed on Form PTO-1449
- c. ☒ A concise explanation of relevance of ISR references is given in the ISR.

19. ☐ **Assignment** document and Cover Sheet for recording are attached. Please mail the recorded assignment document back to the person whose signature, name and address appear at the end of this letter.

20. ☐ Copy of Power to IA agent.

21. ☐ **Drawings** (complete only if 8d or 10a(4) not completed): \_\_ sheet(s) per set: ☐ 1 set informal; ☐ Formal of size ☐ A4 ☐ 11"

22. Small Entity Status ☐ is **Not** claimed ☐ is claimed (**pre-filing confirmation required**)

22(a) \_\_ (No.) Small Entity Statement(s) enclosed (since 9/8/00 Small Entity Statements(s) not essential to make claim)

23. **Priority** is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119/365 based on the priority claim and the certified copy, both filed in the International Application during the international stage based on the filing in (country) FINLAND of:

	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>		<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
(1)	990511	9 March 1999	(2)		
(3)			(4)		
(5)			(6)		

- a. ☒ See Form PCT/IB/304 sent to US/DO with copy of priority documents. If copy has not been received, please proceed promptly to obtain same from the IB.
- b. ☐ Copy of Form PCT/IB/304 attached.

RE: USA National Phase Filing of PCT/FI00/00179

518 Rec'd PCT/PTO 06 SEP 2001

24. Attached:

25 Per Item 17.c2, **cancel original** pages #\_\_, claims #\_\_, Drawing Sheets #**26. Calculation of the U.S. National Fee (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1)) and other fees is as follows:**Based on amended claim(s) per above item(s) ☐ 12, ☐ 14, ☐ 17, ☐ 25 (hilit)

Total Effective Claims	20	minus 20 =	0	x \$18/\$9	=	\$0	966/967
Independent Claims	5	minus 3 =	2	x \$80/\$40	=	\$160	964/965
If any proper (ignore improper) Multiple Dependent claim is present,				add \$270/\$135	+0		968/969

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(4)): →→ **BASIC FEE REQUIRED, NOW** →→→→A. If country code letters in item 1 are not "US", "BR", "BB", "TT", "MX", "IL", "NZ", "IN" or "ZA"

See item 16 re:

1. Search Report was <u>not</u> prepared by EPO or JPO -----	add \$1000/\$500		960/961
2. Search Report was prepared by EPO or JPO -----	add \$860/\$430	+1000	970/971

**SKIP B, C, D AND E UNLESS country code letters in item 1 are "US", "BR", "BB", "TT", "MX", "IL", "NZ", "IN" or "ZA"**

→ <input type="checkbox"/> B. If <u>USPTO</u> did not issue <u>both</u> International Search Report (ISR) <u>and</u> (if box 4(b) above is X'd) the International Examination Report (IPER), -----	add \$1000/\$500	+0	960/961
(only) → <input type="checkbox"/> C. If <u>USPTO</u> issued ISR but not IPER (or box 4(a) above is X'd), -----	add \$710/\$355	+0	958/959
(one) → <input type="checkbox"/> D. If <u>USPTO</u> issued IPER but IPER Sec. V boxes <u>not all</u> 3 YES, -----	add \$690/\$345	+0	956/957
(of) → <input type="checkbox"/> E. If international preliminary examination fee was paid to <u>USPTO</u> and Rules 492(a)(4) and 496(b) <u>satisfied</u> (IPER Sec. V <u>all</u> 3 boxes YES for <u>all</u> claims), -----	add \$100/\$50	+0	962/963
(these) →			
(4) →			
(boxes) →			

27. <b>SUBTOTAL =</b>	<b>\$1160</b>	
28. If Assignment box 19 above is X'd, add Assignment Recording fee of ----\$40	+0	(581)
29. If box 15a is x'd, determine whether inventorship on Declaration is different than in international stage. If yes, add (per Rule 497(d)) ----\$130	+0	(098)
30. Attached is a check to cover the -----	<b>TOTAL FEES</b>	<b>\$1160</b>

Our Deposit Account No. 03-3975

Our Order No. 60258 | 282812  
C# M#

00909

**CHARGE STATEMENT:** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 and 492 (missing or insufficient fee only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account/Order Nos. shown above for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

**This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal form is filed****Pillsbury Winthrop LLP**  
**Intellectual Property Group**By Atty: Christine H. McCarthyReg. No. 41844Sig: [Signature]Fax: (703) 905-2500  
Tel: (703) 905-2143

Atty/Sec: CHM/JRH

**NOTE:** File in duplicate with 2 postcard receipts (PAT-103) & attachments.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. National Stage Application of PCT/FI00/00179

JUUTI et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 30, 2001

FOR: CAMPING IN AN EXCLUSIVE CELL

\* \* \* \* \*

September 6, 2001

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before beginning examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Just after the title, please insert:

--This is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/FI00/00179 which was filed on March 8, 2000 and designated the U.S. Said International Application was filed in English.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-20 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for deciding whether a mobile station used by a subscriber is allowed to camp in a cell of a mobile communications system comprising location areas, the method comprising the steps of:

defining exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;

receiving, via a cell, a request for location update which initiates a location update procedure for updating the subscriber's location to a new location area;

checking during the location update procedure whether the new location area is an exclusive location area; and

if the new location area is an exclusive location area:

- determining whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell,

- allowing the mobile station to camp in the cell by accepting location update if the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and

- preventing the mobile station from camping in the cell by rejecting the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, the method further comprising the step of maintaining information about exclusive location areas in the network element rejecting or accepting location updates.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2, the method further comprising the steps of:

maintaining information about location areas comprising exclusive cells by maintaining cell information indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell; and

using cell information for deciding whether the location area is an exclusive location area.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, the method further comprising the steps of:

receiving an indication indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell during location update; and

deciding on the basis of the indication whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein  
the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;  
the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells; and  
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein  
the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;  
the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells;  
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information ; and

the method further comprising the steps of:  
defining location service areas so that when an exclusive access cell belongs to a location service area, the other cells in that location service area are also exclusive cells;  
maintaining information about location service areas comprising exclusive cells; and  
using that information for deciding whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising receiving the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and the subscriber's identification information during the location update.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, the method further comprising the steps of:

broadcasting the location area identity of the cell and the local service area information of the cell;

broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive access cell on a broadcast channel when the cell is an exclusive access cell;

when receiving the new location area identity and said indication in the broadcast in the mobile station:

- comparing the local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information stored in the mobile station; and

- if there is a match, camping in the cell by sending a location update request, or

- if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp in and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising rejecting the location update with the cause "roaming not allowed in this location area".

10. (Amended) A method for deciding whether to trigger a location update by a mobile station used by a subscriber, the method comprising the steps of:

defining location areas so that all exclusive cells are in exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;

broadcasting a location area identity and local service area information;

broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an location area comprising exclusive cells;

determining whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive cell in the broadcast ; and

if camping is allowed, sending a location update request, or

if camping is not allowed, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein

the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;

the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells; and

the method further comprising the steps of:

broadcasting a location area identity and local service area information;

comparing the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information in the mobile station in response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive access cell in the broadcast; and

if there is a match, sending a location update request, or

if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.



12. (Amended) A network comprising  
exclusive cells and other cells via which a mobile station may be connected to the  
network,  
location areas defining groups of cells, and  
at least one mobile station which is arranged, in response to a new location area, to  
send a location update request including the identity of the new location area and information  
about the subscriber using it,  
wherein  
at least one exclusive location area comprising an exclusive access cells is defined,  
and  
the network is arranged to access information about exclusive location areas and, in  
response to a location update of a mobile station, to check whether the location area in the  
location update is an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is  
allowed to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed  
to camp in the cell.

13. (Amended) A network according to claim 12, wherein  
the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell and an  
indication that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an exclusive location area,  
and  
the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity  
and said indication, to determine whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell,  
and if it is allowed, to send a location update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to  
try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited  
service state.

14. (Amended) A network according to claim 12, wherein the network comprises local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, and the network is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information.

15. (Amended) A network according to claim 14, wherein  
the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and an indication that the cell is an exclusive access cell when the cell is an exclusive access cell, and

the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity and said indication, to compare the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information, and if there is a match, to send a location update request to the network, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

16. (Amended) A network element in a mobile communications system taking part in location update procedures between the system and a mobile station, which system comprises location areas,

wherein

the network element is arranged to store or to have access to information about exclusive location areas comprising exclusive access cells and, in response to a location update to a cell, to check whether the location area to which the location update is targeted is

an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

17. (Amended) A network element according to claim 16 in a mobile communications system comprising also local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, wherein the network element is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the local service area information of the subscriber.

18. (Amended) A network element according to claim 16, wherein the information about exclusive location areas comprise exclusive location areas having at least one cell which is in the area of the network element.

19. (Amended) A mobile station which supports cell service definitions in a mobile communications system comprising location areas, and is arranged to receive broadcast information about a location area of the cell,

wherein

the mobile station is arranged to determine whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive cells, and if it is allowed, to send a location update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

20. (Amended) A mobile station according to claim 19 in a mobile communications system comprising also local service areas supporting local service area definitions, wherein

the cell service definitions supported by the mobile station comprises local service area definitions, and

the mobile station is arranged to receive broadcast information about local service areas of a cell and to perform the determining by comparing the local service area information of the cell with subscriber's local service area information in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive access cells and if there is a match, to send a location update request to the system, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claims.

REMARKS

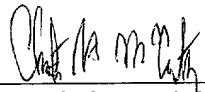
Claims 1 through 20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, all multiple dependencies have been removed and minor changes have been made to the claims to conform to U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned **“Version with markings to show changes made”**.

Early and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP

By: 

Christine H. McCarthy

Reg. No. 41,844

Tel. No.: (703) 905-2143

Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

CHM/jrh  
1600 Tysons Boulevard  
McLean, VA 22102  
703-905-2000  
Enclosure: Appendix

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification has been amended as shown.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method for deciding whether a mobile station used by a subscriber is allowed to camp in a cell of a mobile communications system comprising location areas, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] the method comprising the steps of:

defining exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;

receiving, via a cell, a request for location update which initiates a location update procedure for updating the subscriber's location to a new location area;

checking during the location update procedure whether the new location area is an exclusive location area; and

if the new location area is an exclusive location area:

- determining whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell,

- allowing the mobile station to camp in the cell by accepting location update if the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and

- preventing the mobile station from camping in the cell by rejecting the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] the method further comprising the step of maintaining information about exclusive location areas in the network element rejecting or accepting location updates.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] the method further comprising the steps of:

maintaining information about location areas comprising exclusive cells by  
maintaining cell information indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell; and  
using cell information for deciding whether the location area is an exclusive location area.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] the method further comprising the steps of:

receiving an indication indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell during location update; and

deciding on the basis of the indication whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

5. (Amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1,  
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] wherein

the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;  
the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells; and  
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] wherein

the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;  
the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells;

the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information ; and

the method further comprising the steps of:

defining location service areas so that when an exclusive access cell belongs to a location service area, the other cells in that location service area are also exclusive cells;

maintaining information about location service areas comprising exclusive cells; and

using that information for deciding whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 5[or 6], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] further comprising receiving the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and the subscriber's identification information during the location update.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, [6 or 7 c h a r a c t e r i z e d by] the method further comprising the steps of:

broadcasting the location area identity of the cell and the local service area information of the cell;

broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive access cell on a broadcast channel when the cell is an exclusive access cell;

when receiving the new location area identity and said indication in the broadcast in the mobile station:

- comparing the local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information stored in the mobile station; and



- if there is a match, camping in the cell by sending a location update request, or
- if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp in and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

9. (Amended) A method according to [any of the preceding claims characterized by] claim 1, further comprising rejecting the location update with the cause "roaming not allowed in this location area".

10. (Amended) A method for deciding whether to trigger a location update by a mobile station used by a subscriber [characterized by], the method comprising the steps of:

defining location areas so that all exclusive cells are in exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;

broadcasting a location area identity and local service area information;

broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an location area comprising exclusive cells;

determining whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive cell in the broadcast ; and

if camping is allowed, sending a location update request, or

if camping is not allowed, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 10, [characterized by] wherein the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;

the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells; and

the method further comprising the steps of:

broadcasting a location area identity and local service area information;

comparing the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information in the mobile station in response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive access cell in the broadcast; and

if there is a match, sending a location update request, or

if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

12. (Amended) A network comprising

exclusive cells [(BTS)] and other cells via which a mobile station may be connected to the network,

location areas defining groups of cells, and

at least one mobile station [(MS)] which is arranged, in response to a new location area, to send a location update request including the identity of the new location area and information about the subscriber using it,

[characterized in that] wherein

at least one exclusive location area comprising an exclusive access cells is defined, and

the network [(GSM)] is arranged to access information about exclusive location areas and, in response to a location update of a mobile station, to check whether the location area in the location update is an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is

allowed to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

13. (Amended) A network according to claim 12, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that]  
wherein

the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell and an indication that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an exclusive location area, and

the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity and said indication, to determine whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell, and if it is allowed, to send a location update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

14. (Amended) A network according to claim 12, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that]  
wherein the network comprises local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, and the network is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information.

15. (Amended) A network according to claim 14, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in, that]  
wherein

the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and an indication that the cell is an exclusive access cell when the cell is an exclusive access cell, and

the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity and said indication, to compare the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information, and if there is a match, to send a location update request to the network, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

16. (Amended) A network element in a mobile communications system taking part in location update procedures between the system and a mobile station, which system comprises location areas,

[characterized in that] wherein

the network element [(MSC)] is arranged to store or to have access to information about exclusive location areas comprising exclusive access cells and, in response to a location update to a cell, to check whether the location area to which the location update is targeted is an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

17. (Amended) A network element according to claim 16 in a mobile communications system comprising also local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area,  
[characterized in that] wherein the network element is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is

allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the local service area information of the subscriber.

18. (Amended) A network element according to claim 16 [or 17],  
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the information about exclusive location areas  
comprise exclusive location areas having at least one cell which is in the area of the network  
element [(MSC)].

19. (Amended) A mobile station which supports cell service definitions in a mobile  
communications system comprising location areas, and is arranged to receive broadcast  
information about a location area of the cell,

[ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein  
the mobile station [(MS)] is arranged to determine whether or not the subscriber is  
allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and  
an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive cells,  
and if it is allowed, to send a location update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to  
try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited  
service state.

20. (Amended) A mobile station according to claim 19 in a mobile communications  
system comprising also local service areas supporting local service area definitions,

[ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein  
the cell service definitions supported by the mobile station comprises local service  
area definitions, and

the mobile station [(MS)] is arranged to receive broadcast information about local service areas of a cell and to perform the determining by comparing the local service area information of the cell with subscriber's local service area information in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive access cells and if there is a match, to send a location update request to the system, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

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## Camping in an exclusive cell

### Background of the invention

[0001] The present invention relates to cell selection in a mobile telecommunications network and especially to preventing some subscribers  
5 from camping in an exclusive access cell.

[0002] Mobile communications system generally refers to any telecommunications system which enables wireless communication when users are moving within the service area of the system. A typical mobile communications system is a Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN).

10 [0003] In cellular mobile communications systems, like the pan-European mobile communications system GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications), a mobile station may roam freely within the area of the mobile communications network and switch from one cell to another. Normally a mobile station camps in the cell the base station signal of which is best at  
15 the moment. Usually, all base stations provide substantially similar services for the mobile stations in a network. Some base stations can, however, be defined to provide a certain special service for all mobile stations of the network, e.g. call charges below the normal tariff. The base station broadcasts a message on such a special service on its broadcast control channel, whereby mobile  
20 stations in the cell served by the base station note that they are within a special service area of the network and may take advantage of this service.

[0004] Within the context of this application, such special service areas are referred to as localized service areas LSA and support for LSA is called SoLSA. A subscriber having a SoLSA service is called a SoLSA  
25 subscriber. A mobile station currently having support for the SoLSA is said to be in LSA mode. This could mean e.g. that the mobile station indicates to its user that certain special features (like lower rates or extra services) are available, and it uses these features when applicable. However, the mobile stations not supporting the SoLSA are not impacted by the presence of LSA  
30 services. The SoLSA for a GSM environment is described in a proposal to the ETSI (European Telecommunication Standard Institute), document GSM 03.73, version 2.0.0 which is incorporated herein by reference, but for convenience, the parts of this document which are essential for understanding the invention are repeated in this application.

35 [0005] The concept of LSA extends the operator's capability to offer different service features to subscribers or subscriber groups, different tariffs

and different access rights depending on the location of the subscriber. Examples of LSAs are indoor office cells (those provided by indoor base stations); a home or an office and its neighbourhood, an industry area (covering all company buildings and the space between), or part or several  
5 locations of a city.

[0006] The network operator can define an LSA consisting of a cell or a number of cells. The cells constituting a LSA may not necessarily provide continuous coverage. It is possible for the network operator to set certain characteristics/attributes to each LSA. Some LSA related attributes may be  
10 managed as part of cell management. One cell may belong to one or more LSAs. There may also be cells which do not belong to any LSA. The LSA is identified by an LSA ID. For a subscriber, the network operator may define one or more LSA(s) as allowed LSA(s).

[0007] One feature of the concept of LSA is exclusive access EA.  
15 The EA attributes may be managed as part of cell management. An exclusive access cell is a cell where only mobile stations having the same exclusive access information as the cell are allowed to camp. With the EA it ought to be possible to guarantee that the members of a user group are the only users of the radio channels (physical resources) within a cell. In order to support  
20 exclusive access, other users' mobile stations must be prevented from camping in that cell. However, emergency calls should be allowed for every mobile station in that cell.

[0008] A problem with the above described is that there is no solution available to separate cells from the mobile stations not belonging to  
25 the user group and to allow emergency calls for all mobile stations in these cells including also mobile stations not supporting the SoLSA.

### **Brief description of the invention**

[0009] The object of the invention is to overcome the above problem and, when no suitable cell where to camp is found, to allow the  
30 mobile stations, the users of which do not belong to the user group of an exclusive cell, to enter the limited service state and thus allow emergency calls. The object is achieved by means of methods, a network, a network element and a mobile station which are characterized by what is disclosed in the characterising part of the appended independent claims. Preferred  
35 embodiments of the invention are specified in the dependent claims.



[0010] The invention is based on using specific exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells, i.e. cells with restricted access. Separate location areas are used for the normal cells, i.e. non-exclusive cells. With such location areas it is guaranteed that when entering a location area, a location  
5 update is triggered. During the location update procedure, the subscriber's right to access the cell is determined. If the subscriber is not a member of the user group allowed to camp in an exclusive cell, the location update will be rejected. However, the rejection of location update allows emergency calls.

[0011] By 'a user of a member group' it is meant that the subscriber  
10 fulfils the necessary conditions defined for the exclusive cell.

[0012] The advantage of the invention is that by restricting the operators freedom to define location areas only to some extent and by adding one check before actual location update it is possible to guarantee that only the users belonging to the user group defined for an exclusive cell can camp in  
15 that cell, but emergency calls can be made with all mobile stations, regardless whether they support the service needed in the exclusive cell or not.

[0013] In one embodiment of the invention the indication indicating an exclusive location area is preferably broadcast in the cell so that the mobile stations having no access to the cell do not even try to camp in that cell.

## 20 **Brief description of the drawings**

[0014] The invention will be described in greater detail by means of preferred embodiments with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0015] Figure 1 is a block diagram of a mobile communications  
25 system;

[0016] Figures 2, 3 and 4 are flow charts illustrating the functionality of the MSC in the first, second and third preferred embodiments of the invention; and

[0017] Figure 5 is a flow chart illustrating the functionality of the MS  
30 in the fourth preferred embodiment.

## **Detailed description of the invention**

[0018] The invention can be applied to many kinds of cellular mobile communications system like the GSM system (phase 2+ or more) or corresponding mobile communications systems, such as DCS 1800 (Digital  
35 Cellular System for 1800 MHz) and PCS (Personal Communication System).

The invention is also suitable for third generation mobile systems, such as Universal Mobile Communication System (UMTS) and Future Public Land Mobile Telecommunication System (FPLMTS) later renamed as IMT-2000 (International Mobile Telecommunication 2000), which at present are being  
5 developed. In the following, the invention will be described in greater detail by way of example mainly with reference to the basic GSM system, yet without limiting the invention to that kind of particular mobile system. For the sake of clarity, the GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) and CAMEL (Customised Applications for Mobile network Enhanced Logic) are not included in the basic  
10 GSM system. They are services of GSM 2+-phase.

[0019] Figure 1 illustrates the basic structure of a GSM network. For a more detailed exposition of the GSM system, reference is made to *The GSM System for Mobile Communications*, M. Mouly and M. Pautet, Palaiseau, France, 1992, ISBN: 2-9507190-07-7.

15 [0020] Referring to Figure 1, the GSM network configuration comprises two parts: a Base Station Subsystem BSS and a Network Subsystem NSS. The BSS and mobile stations MS communicate via radio connections. In a base station subsystem BSS each cell is served by a Base Transceiver Station BTS. A Base Transceiver Station is usually called a base  
20 station. A group of base stations BTS is connected to a Base Station Controller BSC, whose function is to manage the radio frequencies and channels used by the base station BTS. The base station controllers BSC are connected to a Mobile Switching Centre MSC. The function of a mobile switching centre MSC is to switch calls involving at least one mobile station  
25 MS. Some mobile switching centres MSC are connected to other telecommunication networks, such as the Public Switched Telephone Network PSTN, and they comprise transmission functions for switching calls to and from these networks. Such mobile switching centres are called gateway MSCs (not shown in the figure).

30 [0021] Two types of databases are associated with call routing. Subscriber information on all subscribers of the network is stored permanently or semi-permanently in a Home Location Register HLR, the information comprising information on the services that the subscriber has access to, e.g. subscriber specific LSA information. It may comprise one or more LSA(s) as  
35 allowed LSA(s) to the subscriber. There may also be subscribers without any LSA. Each LSA is identified with an LSA ID. The other type of register is a

Visitor Location Register VLR. A visitor location register VLR is usually associated with a single mobile switching centre MSC, but it may also serve several exchanges. A visitor location register VLR can be integrated into a mobile switching centre MSC. Such an integrated network element is called a  
5 visited mobile switching centre MSC/VLR. When a mobile station MS is active (it has registered in the network, and can make or receive calls), most of the subscriber information, including the LSA ID(s) of the mobile station MS contained in the home location register HLR is loaded (copied) into the visitor  
10 location register VLR of the mobile switching centre MSC in the area of which the mobile station MS is.

[0022] In the GSM system serving as an example, a mobile station user is identified by a subscriber-specific identity module, or SIM card, which contains e.g. a subscriber identity IMSI. In the present application the word  
15 mobile station refers to a combination of actual mobile equipment and a user identified from a SIM card detachably coupled to the mobile equipment, unless otherwise stated. The use of an LSA service requires a SIM with SoLSA fields inserted into a dedicated mobile station with the LSA capability . These SoLSA fields include LSA Subscription information like the LSA ID(s) of the  
20 subscriber. Non-LSA mobile stations, even when operating with a SIM that contains SoLSA fields, are in the idle mode which is not impacted by the presence of LSA services.

[0023] In the GSM system Location Area is an area within which the mobile station may move freely without updating their location. The location area is identified with a location area code LAC. The location area consists of  
25 cells defined as belonging to that location area. The cells need not be neighbouring cells, but they need to be in the area of the same PLMN. According to the preferred embodiments of the invention, exclusive location areas are defined so that if there is one exclusive cell defined as belonging to the location area, all the other cells belonging to the same location area are  
30 also exclusive cells. The cells of an exclusive location area are preferably in the area of the same visitor location register.

[0024] When applying the invention to the concept of LSA, the exclusive access cells and the non-exclusive access cells of one location service area should have different location areas. All the exclusive access  
35 cells of one local service area may belong to one exclusive location area regardless of their geographical location. It is also possible that the exclusive

access cells of one local service area belong to different exclusive location areas. So cells with different location area codes LAC may have the same location service area identities LSA ID(s). The exclusive location areas may comprise cells from a plurality of localized service areas. The subscriber's right to access a cell belonging to a particular localized service area can then be determined by using an exclusive access identifier identifying the subscribers who are allowed to access that particular localized service area. The identifier is preferably broadcasted in the cell so that the SoLSA mobile stations having no access to the cell do not even try to camp in that cell.

10           **[0025]** In the GSM system each base station broadcasts its location area code and when an MS notices that the location area has changed, it performs location update. Also, cell selection or reselection or handover takes place. These procedures are described in detail in ETSI recommendations GSM 03.22 version 6.0.0 and GSM 05.08 version 6.3.0. These  
15 recommendations are incorporated herein by reference, but for convenience, the parts of these documents which are essential for understanding the invention are repeated in this application.

**[0026]** Figure 2 is a flow chart illustrating the functionality of the MSC in the first preferred embodiment of the invention. In the first preferred  
20 embodiment the LACs of the exclusive location areas in the area of the MSC are stored in the MSC. These LACs are called below EA-LACs.

**[0027]** Referring to Figure 2, an MS has found that the location area broadcast by the BSS has changed and triggers a location update procedure. In step 201 the MSC receives the LAC and LSA ID(s) of the cell in which the  
25 MS wants to camp and the IMSI in the SIM inserted into the mobile station. In step 202 the MSC checks whether the received LAC is an EA-LAC. In other words, the MSC goes through the stored exclusive LACs and compares the received LAC to them. If the received LAC is not an EA-LAC, the location update is continued in step 208 according to the prior art.

30           **[0028]** If the received LAC is an EA-LAC, the MSC obtains the LSA ID(s) of the received IMSI from the VLR in step 203 and in step 204 compares them to the LSA ID(s) of the cell received in step 201. If there is a match in step 205, the MSC accepts the location update in step 206. If there is no match in step 206, the MSC rejects the location update in step 207 with a cause  
35 value "roaming not allowed in this location area".

[0029] Figure 3 is a flow chart illustrating the functionality of the MSC in the second preferred embodiment of the invention. In the second preferred embodiment the identities of the exclusive access cells in the area of the MSC are stored in the MSC.

5           [0030] Referring to Figure 3, an MS has found that the location area broadcast by the BSS has changed and triggers a location update procedure. In step 301 the MSC receives the LAC, LSA ID(s) and identity of the cell in which the MS wants to camp and the IMSI in the SIM inserted into the mobile station. In step 302 the MSC checks whether the received cell identity is  
10 included in the exclusive access cell identities stored in the MSC. If the received cell identity is not found there, the location area is not an EA-LAC and the location update is continued in step 308 according to the prior art.

          [0031] If the received cell identity is found in the exclusive access cell, the location area is an EA-LAC. Then the MSC obtains the LSA ID(s) of  
15 the received IMSI from the VLR in step 303 and in step 304 compares them to the LSA ID(s) of the cell received in step 301. If there is a match in step 305, the MSC accepts the location update in step 306. If there is no match in step 306, the MSC rejects the location update in step 307 with a cause value "roaming not allowed in this location area".

20           [0032] Figure 4 is a flow chart illustrating the functionality of the MSC in the third preferred embodiment of the invention. In the third preferred embodiment of the invention the location service areas are also defined so that all the cells belonging to the LSA are either exclusive access cells or not. Thus, in the third preferred embodiment there are no LSA having both  
25 exclusive access cells and non-exclusive access cells as can be the case in the first and second preferred embodiments of the invention. In the third preferred embodiment the LSA IDs of the exclusive location service areas having exclusive access cells and being in the area of the MSC are stored in the MSC. These LSA IDs are called below EA-LSA IDs. In the third preferred  
30 embodiment, if a cell has more than one LSA ID(s), none or all of them have to be EA-LSA IDs. If they are EA-LSA ID(s), all the cells belonging to the same location area have to have the same LSA ID(s).

          [0033] Referring to Figure 4, an MS has found that the location area broadcast by the BSS has changed and triggers a location update procedure.  
35 In step 401 the MSC receives the LAC and LSA ID(s) of the cell in which the MS wants to camp and the IMSI in the SIM inserted into the mobile station. In

step 402 the MSC checks whether one of the received LSA ID(s) is an EA-LSA ID. In other words, the MSC goes through the stored exclusive LSA IDs and compares the received LSA ID(s) to them. If none of the received LSA ID is an EA-LSA ID, the location area is not an EA-LAC and the location update is  
5 continued in step 408 according to the prior art.

[0034] If one of the received LSA ID(s) is an EA-LSA ID, the MSC obtains the LSA ID(s) of the received IMSI from the VLR in step 403 and in step 404 compares them to the LSA ID(s) of the cell received in step 401. If there is a match in step 405, the MSC acceptsthe location update in step 406.  
10 If there is no match in step 406, the MSC rejects the location update in step 407 with a cause value "roaming not allowed in this location area".

[0035] In another embodiment based on the third embodiment, only the first received LSA ID is checked in step 402. If it is not an EA-LSA ID, neither is (are) the other LSA ID(s). And if it is, so are the others.

15 [0036] The message received in steps 201, 301 and 401 is preferably COMPLETE\_LAYER3\_INFORMATION to which the LSA ID(s) of the cell are added. Also other messages may be used.

[0037] In other embodiments of the invention the BSS adds an indication indicating whether the cell is an exclusive access cell e.g. into the  
20 above-mentioned message. The MSC decides on the basis of the indication whether the location area is an exclusive access location area. Thus there is no need to store any information in the MSC in these embodiments. The information may be stored as part of cell information in the BSC or BTS.

[0038] In some other embodiments of the invention some other  
25 cause values may be used. The used cause value has to allow emergency calls and prevent the mobile station from camping in the cell. In other words, the mobile station has to enter a limited service state where emergency calls can be made and the MS tries to find a suitable cell, i.e. a cell with another LAC.

30 [0039] Yet in some other embodiments the information used for deciding whether the cell belongs to an exclusive access location area is stored in some other network element and the MSC inquiries this information from that element.

[0040] Still in some other embodiments it is checked after step 203,  
35 303 or 403 whether the subscriber's local service area information is empty

and if it is, we skip over steps 204 and 205, 304 and 305 or 404 and 405 to a step where the location update is rejected.

5 [0041] Figure 5 is a flow chart illustrating the functionality of a SoLSA compatible MS according to the fourth preferred embodiment of the invention. The cell service definitions supported by a SoLSA compatible MS are local service area definitions. Other cell service definitions, like the capability to use high speed data, may be also used. This MS functionality illustrated in Figure 5 can be utilized with network functionalities according to any of the above described embodiments, for example. In the fourth preferred embodiment of the invention base stations broadcast information indicating whether the cell is an exclusive access cell. Preferably, when a cell is an exclusive access cell, a bit or a bitmap indicating it is added into the broadcast message. In the example illustrated in Figure 5 it is assumed that the mobile station has just moved from one location area to another.

10 [0042] Referring to Figure 5, in step 501 the mobile station receives broadcast information indicating the exclusive access cell, LAC and LSA ID(s) of the cell. The location area is new, so there is a need to trigger location update. However, because the indication indicating an exclusive access cell was also received, the mobile station performs some "location update preanalyses" in order to find out whether it can update the location. Therefore the mobile station compares the received LSA ID(s) of the cell with the LSA ID(s) in the SIM in step 502. If there is a match in step 503, the mobile station triggers the actual location updating procedure with the network in step 509 and continues in the fifth preferred embodiment according to the first preferred embodiment. In some other embodiments location update is continued according to some other above described preferred embodiment or according to the prior art.

15 [0043] If there is no match in step 503, the mobile station adds the location area in the list of "forbidden location areas for roaming" in step 504 and then tries to find a suitable cell in step 505. If a suitable cell is found in step 506, the mobile station camps in it in step 507 according to the prior art. If a suitable cell is not found in step 506 the mobile station enters a limited service state in step 508, which was described earlier.

20 [0044] The advantage of the fourth embodiment is that the SoLSA mobile stations do not unnecessarily load the network by trying to update their location to a cell they are not allowed to. However, the fifth embodiment

guarantees that the mobile stations not supporting the SoLSA do not camp in an exclusive access cell but enter a limited service state where emergency calls can be made.

5           **[0045]** The steps have not been set out in absolute chronological order in Figures 2 - 5. Some of the above described steps may take place simultaneously or in different order. Some steps may actually comprise several steps, like receiving the information in steps 201, 301 and 401. It is also possible to receive more information in one step as stated above. Also other steps not shown in the figures may take place between the steps stated  
10 above. The used identification information may differ from that described in examples. For example, instead of the IMSI, a temporary mobile subscriber identity TMSI may be used.

**[0046]** Although the invention is described above with the concept of LSA and exclusive access cell, the invention is not limited to them. The  
15 exclusive location areas may be used with other services which aim to restrict camping in special cells. For example, it is possible to allow only mobile stations supporting high speed data to camp in special high speed data cells by defining exclusive location areas comprising special high speed data cells. Thus instead of comparing the LSA ID(s) of the cell with subscriber's LSA  
20 ID(s), other criteria can be used when determining whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell.

**[0047]** It is also possible to have networks comprising different kinds of exclusive location areas. In such networks the criteria used for determining whether a mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell are  
25 indicated. This indication may be implemented in many ways. For example, the indication may be stored with each EA-LAC. With this indication right criteria for that exclusive location area are used, i.e. LSA ID(s) when exclusive location area comprises exclusive access cells or the support for high speed data when the exclusive location area comprises special high speed data cells.

30           **[0048]** The present invention can be implemented in the existing network elements. They all have processors and memory with which the inventive functionality described above may be implemented and/or application specific circuits can be added to them. The functionality described above with figures 2, 3 and 4 may also take place in some other network  
35 element than the MSC, such as Service Control Point SCP or Serving SGSN Support Node SGSN.



[0049] It will be obvious to one skilled in the art that the basic idea of the invention can be implemented in many different ways. The invention and its embodiments are thus not limited to the examples described above but may be modified within the scope of the appended claims. The accompanying  
5 drawings and the description pertaining to them are only intended to illustrate the present invention. Different variations and modifications to the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art, without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention defined in the appended claims.

## Claims

1. A method for deciding whether a mobile station used by a subscriber is allowed to camp in a cell of a mobile communications system comprising location areas, characterized by the method comprising the steps of:
- 5 defining exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;  
receiving, via a cell, a request for location update which initiates a location update procedure for updating the subscriber's location to a new location area;
- 10 checking during the location update procedure whether the new location area is an exclusive location area; and  
if the new location area is an exclusive location area:  
- determining whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell,
- 15 - allowing the mobile station to camp in the cell by accepting location update if the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and  
- preventing the mobile station from camping in the cell by rejecting the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.
- 20 2. A method according to claim 1, characterized by the method further comprising the step of maintaining information about exclusive location areas in the network element rejecting or accepting location updates.
3. A method according to claim 2, characterized by the method further comprising the steps of:
- 25 maintaining information about location areas comprising exclusive cells by maintaining cell information indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell; and  
using cell information for deciding whether the location area is an exclusive location area.
- 30 4. A method according to claim 1, characterized by the method further comprising the steps of:  
receiving an indication indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell during location update; and
- 35

deciding on the basis of the indication whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

5        5. A method according to any of the preceding claims,  
characterized by  
the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;  
the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells; and  
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell  
is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the  
10        subscriber's local service area information .

15        6. A method according to claim 1, characterized by  
the mobile communications system comprising local service areas;  
the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells;  
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell  
is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the  
subscriber's local service area information ; and  
the method further comprising the steps of:  
defining location service areas so that when an exclusive access  
20        cell belongs to a location service area, the other cells in that location service  
area are also exclusive cells;  
maintaining information about location service areas comprising  
exclusive cells; and  
using that information for deciding whether the location area of the  
25        cell is an exclusive location area.

30        7. A method according to claim 5 or 6, characterized by  
receiving the location area identity of the cell, the local service area  
information of the cell and the subscriber's identification information during the  
location update.

35        8. A method according to claim 5, 6 or 7 characterized by  
the method further comprising the steps of:  
broadcasting the location area identity of the cell and the local  
service area information of the cell;

broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive access cell on a broadcast channel when the cell is an exclusive access cell; when receiving the new location area identity and said indication in the broadcast in the mobile station:

- 5           - comparing the local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information stored in the mobile station; and  
          -- if there is a match, camping in the cell by sending a location update request, or  
          -- if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp in  
10   and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

9. A method according to any of the preceding claims  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d by rejecting the location update with the cause "roaming not allowed in this location area".

15

10. A method for deciding whether to trigger a location update by a mobile station used by a subscriber c h a r a c t e r i z e d by the method comprising the steps of:

- defining location areas so that all exclusive cells are in exclusive  
20   location areas comprising exclusive cells;  
          broadcasting a location area identity and local service area information;  
          broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an location area comprising exclusive cells;  
25           determining whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive cell in the broadcast ; and  
          if camping is allowed, sending a location update request, or  
          if camping is not allowed, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp  
30   and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

11. A method according to claim 10, c h a r a c t e r i z e d by the mobile communications system comprising local service areas; the exclusive cells being exclusive access cells; and  
35   the method further comprising the steps of:

broadcasting a location area identity and local service area information;

comparing the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information in the mobile station in  
5 response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive access cell in the broadcast; and

if there is a match, sending a location update request, or

if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

10

12. A network comprising

exclusive cells (BTS) and other cells via which a mobile station may be connected to the network,

location areas defining groups of cells, and

15

at least one mobile station (MS) which is arranged, in response to a new location area, to send a location update request including the identity of the new location area and information about the subscriber using it,

characterized in that

at least one exclusive location area comprising an exclusive access  
20 cells is defined, and

the network (GSM) is arranged to access information about exclusive location areas and, in response to a location update of a mobile station, to check whether the location area in the location update is an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is allowed  
25 to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

13. A network according to claim 12, characterized in that

the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of  
30 the cell and an indication that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an exclusive location area, and

the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity and said indication, to determine whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell, and if it is allowed, to send a location  
35 update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to try to find a suitable

cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

14. A network according to claim 12, characterized in that  
5 the network comprises local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, and the network is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's  
10 local service area information.

15. A network according to claim 14, characterized in, that  
the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and an indication that the  
15 cell is an exclusive access cell when the cell is an exclusive access cell, and the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity and said indication, to compare the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information, and if there is a match, to send a location update request to the  
20 network, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

16. A network element in a mobile communications system taking part in location update procedures between the system and a mobile station,  
25 which system comprises location areas, characterized in that the network element (MSC) is arranged to store or to have access to information about exclusive location areas comprising exclusive access cells and, in response to a location update to a cell, to check whether the  
30 location area to which the location update is targeted is an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

35 17. A network element according to claim 16 in a mobile communications system comprising also local service areas defining local

services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, characterized in that the network element is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the  
5 local service area information of the cell to the local service area information of the subscriber.

18. A network element according to claim 16 or 17,  
characterized in that the information about exclusive location areas  
10 comprise exclusive location areas having at least one cell which is in the area of the network element (MSC).

19. A mobile station which supports cell service definitions in a mobile communications system comprising location areas, and is arranged to  
15 receive broadcast information about a location area of the cell,  
characterized in that  
the mobile station (MS) is arranged to determine whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and an indication indicating that the cell  
20 belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive cells, and if it is allowed, to send a location update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

20. A mobile station according to claim 19 in a mobile communications system comprising also local service areas supporting local service area definitions,  
characterized in that  
the cell service definitions supported by the mobile station  
30 comprises local service area definitions, and  
the mobile station (MS) is arranged to receive broadcast information about local service areas of a cell and to perform the determining by comparing the local service area information of the cell with subscriber's local service area information in response to receiving in the broadcast a new  
35 location area and an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive access cells and if there is a match, to send a

location update request to the system, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell where to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.



**(57) Abstract**

In a mobile communications system exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells are defined in order to separate cells from the mobile stations not belonging to the user group allowed to camp in the cell and still to allow emergency calls for all mobile stations in these cells. During location update it is checked whether the cell belongs to an exclusive location area (202) and if it does, it is determined whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell.

(Figure 2)

5

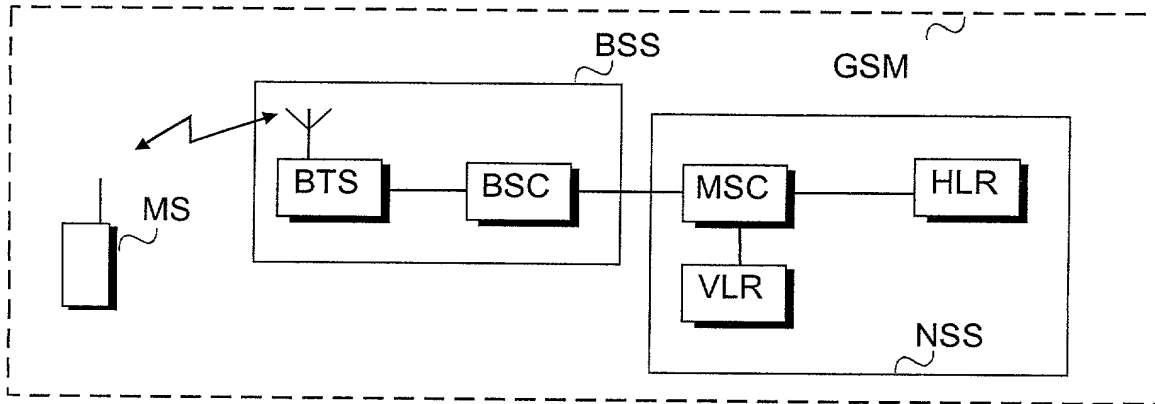


FIG. 1

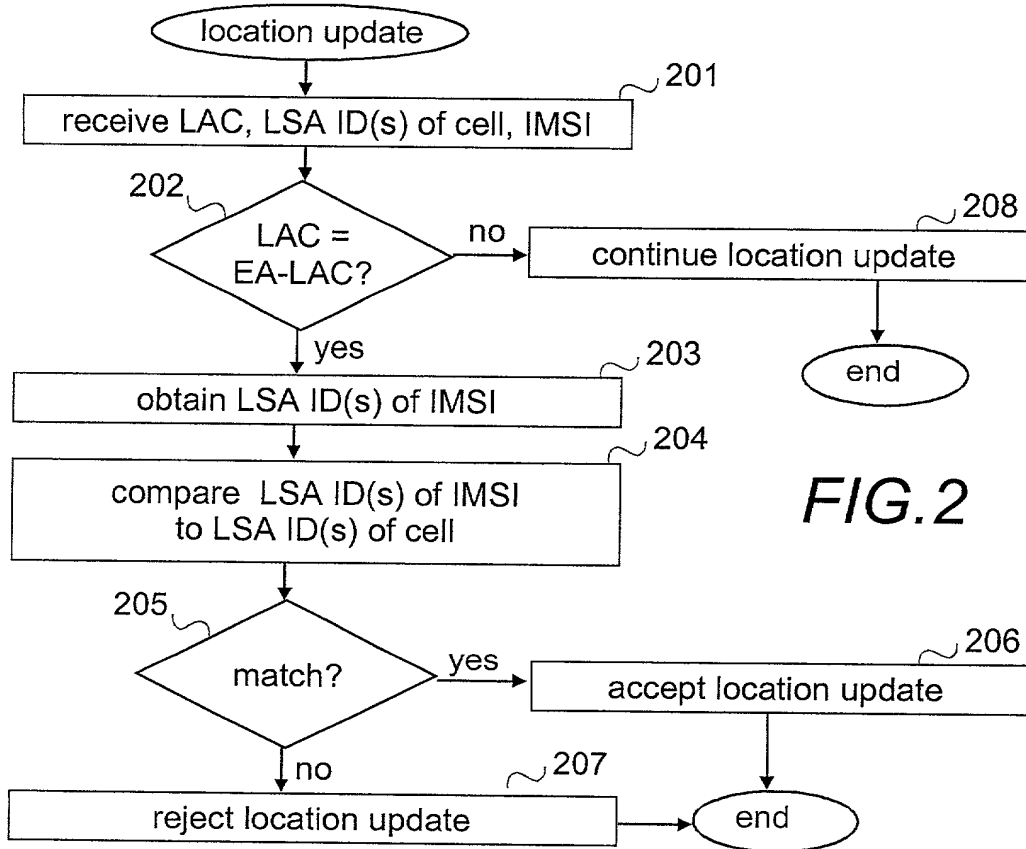


FIG. 2

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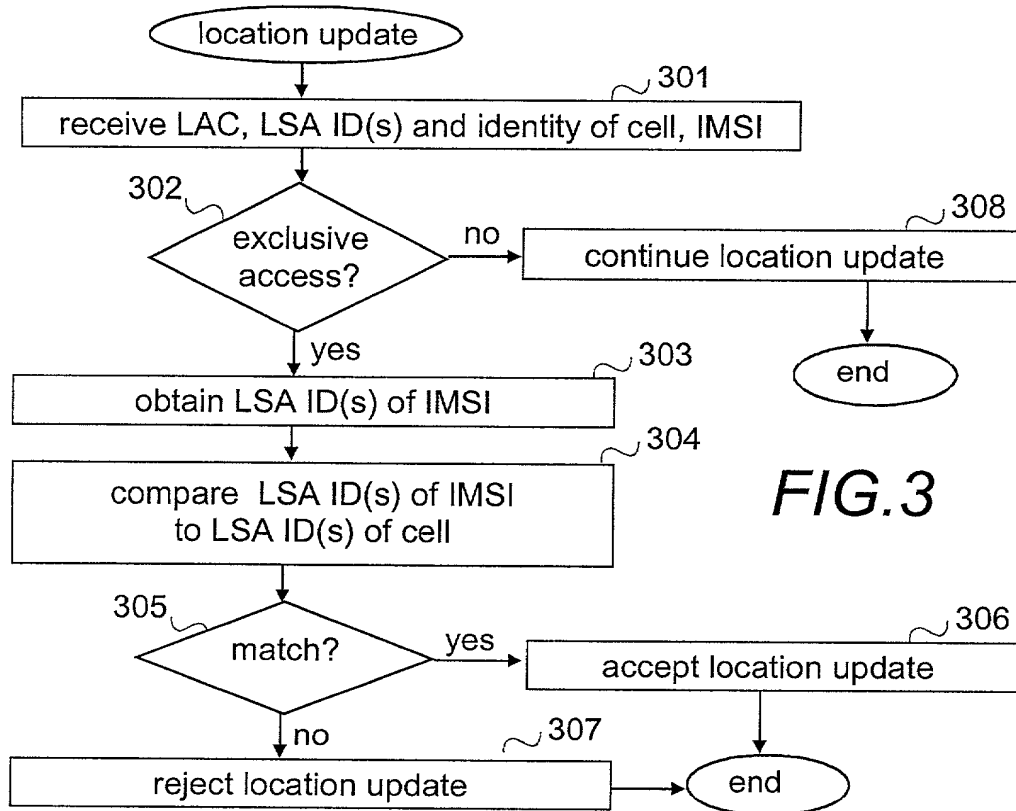


FIG. 3

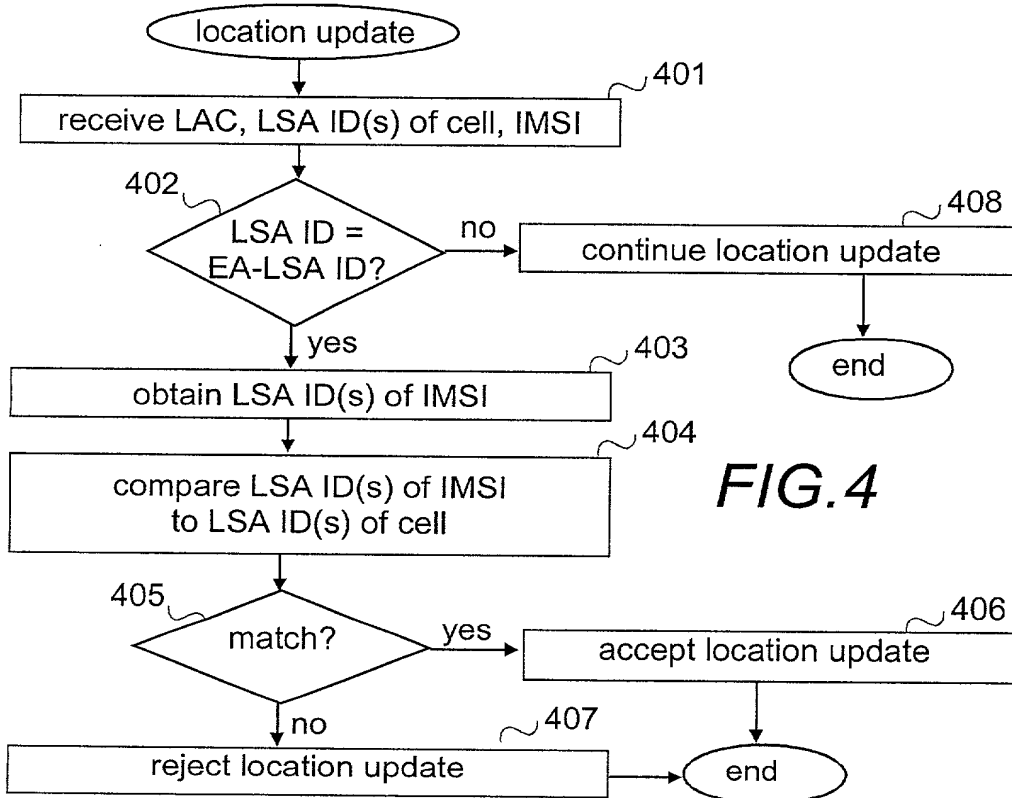


FIG. 4

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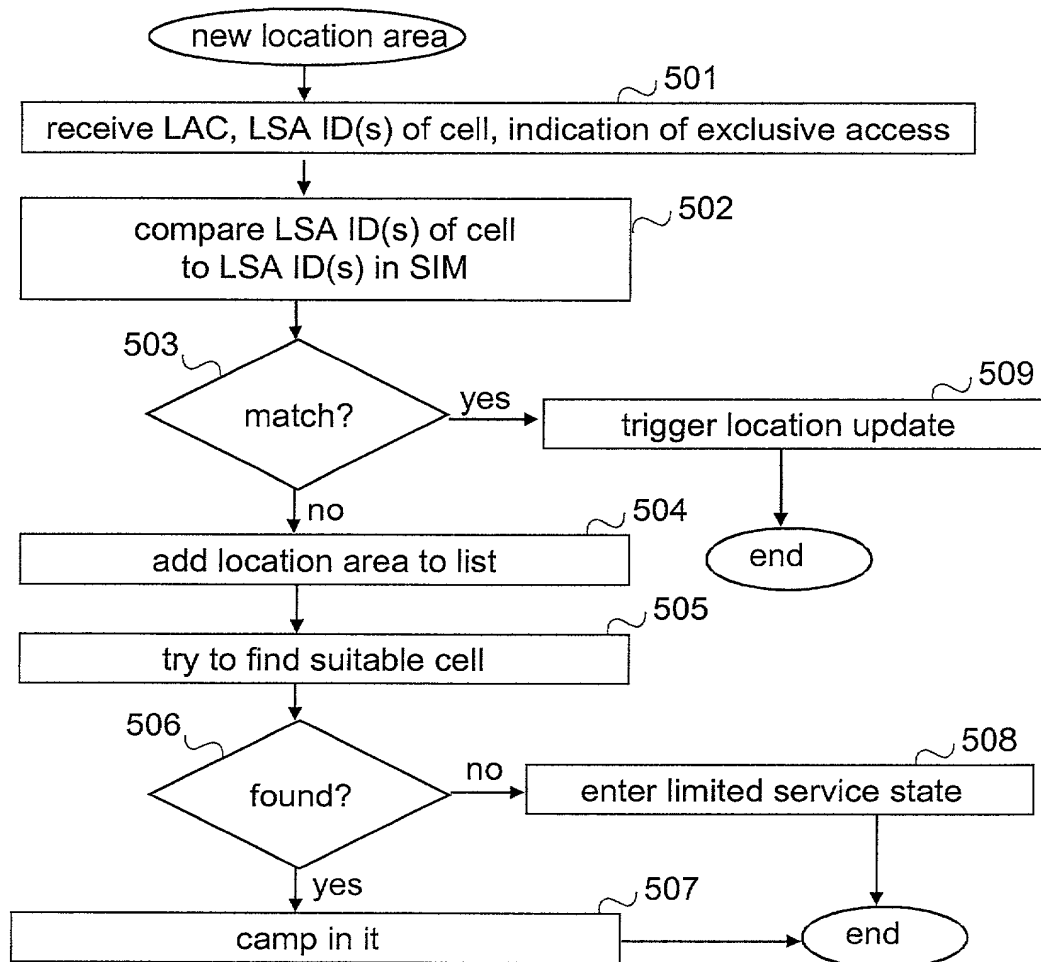


FIG.5

FOR UTILITY/DESIGN  
CIP/PCT NATIONAL/PLANT  
ORIGINAL/SUBSTITUTE/SUPPLEMENTAL  
DECLARATIONS

RULE 63 (37 C.F.R. 1.63)  
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR PATENT APPLICATION  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PW  
FORM

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the **INVENTION ENTITLED CAMPING IN AN EXCLUSIVE CELL**

the specification of which (CHECK applicable BOX(ES))

X  
BOX(ES) → A. ☐ is attached hereto.  
→ B. was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as U.S. Application No. \_\_\_\_/  
→ C. x was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/FI \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ on 8 March 2000

and (if applicable to U.S. or PCT application) was amended on \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56. Except as noted below, I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT International Application which designated at least one other country than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International Application, filed by me or my assignee disclosing the subject matter claimed in this application and having a filing date (1) before that of the application on which priority is claimed, or (2) if no priority claimed, before the filing date of this application

**PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)**

Number	Country	Day/MONTH/Year Filed	Date first Laid-open or Published	Date Patented or Granted	Priority NOT Claimed
990511	Finland	9 March 1999			

If more prior foreign applications, X box at bottom and continue on attached page.

Except as noted below, I hereby claim domestic priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120 and/or 365(c) of the indicated United States applications listed below and PCT international applications listed above or below and, if this is a continuation-in-part (CIP) application, insofar as the subject matter disclosed and claimed in this application is in addition to that disclosed in such prior applications, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of each such prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL, NONPROVISIONAL AND/OR PCT APPLICATION(S)**

Application No. (series code/serial no.)	Day/MONTH/Year Filed	Status	Priority NOT Claimed
PCT/FI00/00179	8 March 2000	pending, abandoned, patented	

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

And I hereby appoint Pillsbury Winthrop LLP, Intellectual Property Group, telephone number (202) 861-3000 (to whom all communications are to be directed), and persons of that firm who are associated with USPTO Customer No. 909 (see below label) individually and collectively my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with the resulting patent, and I hereby authorize them to delete from that Customer No. names of persons no longer with their firm, to add new persons of their firm to that Customer No., and to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct the above firm and/or an attorney of that firm in writing to the contrary.

USE ONLY FOR  
PILLSBURY WINTHROP

\*00909\*

00909

(1) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: *Matti J. Juuti*

Date: 27.8.01

Name	Veli-Matti	JUUTI
First	Middle Initial	Family Name
Residence	TUUSULA	FINLAND
City	FTX	Country of Citizenship
Mailing Address	KALAMESTARINTIE 11 E 4, Finland	
(include Zip Code)	04300 TUUSULA	

(2) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: *Juha Bäck*

Date: 31.8.01

Name	Juha	Bäck
First	Middle Initial	Family Name
Residence	HELSINKI	FINLAND
City	FTX	Country of Citizenship
Mailing Address	TULISUONKUJA 1 A, Finland	
(include Zip Code)	00930 HELSINKI 93, FINLAND	

x FOR ADDITIONAL INVENTORS see attached page.

xSee additional foreign priorities on attached page (incorporated herein by reference).

Atty. Dkt. No. P

(M#)

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(continued)

## ADDITIONAL INVENTORS

(3) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: *Tommi* Date: 18.09.2001

Tommi		Kokkola	
First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence	FINLAND	Finland	
City	FTX	State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address	Ristimäentie 24 B8, Finland		
(include Zip Code)	02520 Espoo		

(4) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: *Johanna Pekonen* Date: 18.9.2001

Johanna		Pekonen	
First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence	FINLAND	Finland	
City	FTX	State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address	OTSOLAHDENTIE 7 D 45, Finland		
(include Zip Code)	02110 Espoo		

(5) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Date:

First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence			
City		State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address			
(include Zip Code)			

(6) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Date:

First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence			
City		State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address			
(include Zip Code)			

(7) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Date:

First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence			
City		State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address			
(include Zip Code)			

(8) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Date:

First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence			
City		State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address			
(include Zip Code)			

(9) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: Date:

First	Middle Initial	Family Name	
Residence			
City		State/Foreign Country	Country of Citizenship
Post Office Address			
(include Zip Code)			